**HARRY LAWSON KWAKU AGBANU (PH.D)**

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PhD, MPHIL, B.A (HONS)

Department for the Study of Religions

University of Ghana,

P.O. Box LG 66, Legon Accra Ghana, West Africa

Legon Hill, No.5

University of Ghana, Legon

Accra, Ghana.

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Research into indigenous socio-cultural and religious beliefs, practices and values and how these beliefs, practices and values influence modern contemporary thinking.

**Objective**

Ph.D. Study of Religions, 2011

University of Ghana, Legon, Accra

University of Northern Colorado, USA

Dissertation: Environmental Ethics in Mafi-Ewe Indigenous Culture

M. Phil, Study of Religions, 1999.

University of Ghana, Legon, Accra

Dissertation: Moral Evil and ‘Cremation’ Among the Mafi-Ewe of Ghana (A thesis submitted for the award of Master of Philosophy, Study of Religion from the University of Ghana, Legon-Accra [1999]).

B.A. (HONS), 1993

University of Ghana, Legon, Accra

Study of Religions with Swahili

Teachers’ Cert. “A”, 1985

University of Cape-Coast, Ghana

**Education:**

**Professional Experience**:

**2014-Date: Senior Lecturer:** University of Ghana, Legon

**2001-2013: Lecturer**: University of Ghana, Legon, Accra

Teach and Examine Students in the following:

SREL 647: A major Ethical System

SREL 671: Fundamental Problems in Philosophy of Religion

SREL 673: Contemporary Ethical and Moral Problems

SREL 335: Christian Ethics

SREL 354: Professional Ethics

SREL 355: African Traditional Ethics

SREL 356: Contemporary Ethical and Moral Issues

SREL 358: Philosophy Set Text

SREL 305: African Traditional Religion

SREL 416: Comparative Ethics

SREL 213: Philosophy of Religion

SREL 214: Ethical Theories and Religious Ethical Systems

I supervise and examine students’ project works, including

Theses and long essays. Theses supervised in recent times

Include the following:

**Theses Supervised**:

Adam, Eugenia Tawiah; Perspectives of Divorcees on Divorce and

Remarriage in Selected Charismatic Churches in Adenta (M. Phil. Thesis,

2015)

Dzawu, Charles Mawutor; A Theological Ethical Study of the Neo-

Pentecostal Churches to Environmetal Challenges in Ghana (M. Phil.

Thesis, 2014)

Dzata, Edem; Indigenous Religious views of ‘Child Rights’ among the

People of Mafi-Ewe Traditional Area in Ghana (M.Phil. Thesis, 2014)

Andoh, Mark O.; Contemporary Understanding of Miracles in the

Church of Pentecost: A case Study of the Kaneshie District (M.A.

Dissertation, 2011)

Quaicoo, Joseph; The Church of Pentecost in Ahafo of Ghana (M.A.

Dissertation, 2011)

Thompson, Enoch N.; De-stigmatizing HIV/AIDS: The Impact of

Christian and African Traditional Theological Orientation*.* (M.

Phil Thesis, 2011)

Co-supervised with Dr. R. Ganusah

Tetteh, James Teye; Restorative Justice: The Ghanaian Experience

(M.A. Thesis, 2009).

Afele, Comfort Dela; Faith Healing in African Independent

Churches among the Ewe of Ghana: A case study of the Christ

Apostolic Faith, Atenge and the White Cross Mission (M.Phil

Thesis, 2009) Co-supervised with Dr. Branford Yeboah.

Appiah, John; The Place of African Traditional Rulers in the

Church of Pentecost, Ghana. (M.Phil Thesis, 2009) Co-supervised

with Rev. Dr. Abamfo O. Atiemo.

Van-Dyck, James E.B.; Schism and continuity in Charismatic

Churches: A study of some Churches in Sekondi-Takoradi (M.Phil

Thesis, 2005) Co-supervised with Prof. Elom Dovlo.

Oppong, Robert Kojo; *Moral Education for the Ghanaian Youth in*

*Senior Secondary School: A Case Study of the Sunyani District.*

M’Phil Thesis, 2005) Co-supervised with Dr. R. Ganusah.

Owusu, Stephen; *Religious Resources for the Preservation of the*

*Environment.*  (M. Phil Thesis, 2005) Co-supervised with Dr. R.

Ganusah.

Quaye, Emmmanuel Adjetey: *Religion and Ethics: Responses of Some Ghanaian Religious Bodies to HIV/AIDS, Corruption and Environmental Degradation* (M. Phil Thesis, 2003)

Co-supervised with Dr. R. Ganusah.

**Teaching Assistant:**

University of Ghana, Legon (Department for the Study of

**2000-2001**

Religions)

My duties included:

* organizing tutorials for students
* marking students’ class assignments under the supervision of

lecturers.

* Assisting in research projects

**Graduate Assistant**: University of Ghana, Legon (Department for the Study of Religions)

My duties included:

**1997-1999**

* Organizing tutorials for students
* Marking class assignments
* Assisting lecturers in their research works.

**Tutor**: West Africa Secondary School, Adenta, Accra

Taught and examined students in the following courses:

**1996-1997**

English Language, English Literature and Christian Religious

Studies.

**National Service**: University of Ghana, Legon (Department for the Study of Religion)

My duties included:

**1993-1995**

- Organizing tutorials for students,

-Marking class assignments under the supervision of lecturers  
 -Assisting lecturers in their research projects

**Teacher:** Presbyterian Boy’s Boarding School, Labadi

Taught and examined subjects including Agricultural Science, General Science and English Language.

**1985- 1990**

**Publications:**

1. **Books:**

* Ayegboyin, Deji, Agbanu, Harry & Nihinlola, Emiola (eds)

*Globalization, Technology, HIV& AIDS and Theological Education in*

*Africa*. Ibadan: West African Association of Theological Institutions,

2010.

**B. Book Chapter:**

* Agbanu, H.L.K. “Does Philosophy of Religion Ridicule Religious Faith?” in Abamfo O. Atiemo, Ben-Willie Golo and Lawrence K. Boakye (Eds.), *Unpacking the Sense of the Sacred: A Reader in the Study of Religions* (Oxfordshire: Ayebia Clarke Publishe÷÷rs Ltd., 2014)

1. **Journal Articles:**

Akpabli-Honu, Kodzovi & Agbanu, Harry K. (2014). Types and Statuses of Children of Troxovi Shrines. *International Journal of Humanities & Social Studies,* Vol. 2 (12) (pgs. 308-317)

* Agbanu, H.L.K*. (2013*). The Basis and Nature of African Indigenous Morality: The case of the Mafi-Ewe of Ghana. *Oguaa Journal of Religion & Human Values,* vol. 3 (pgs.76-98)
* Agbanu, H.L.K*. (2013*). Determinism, Human Freedom and Mafi-Ewe

Indigenous culture: An antithesis or a harmony*? Orita, Ibadan*

*Journal of Religious Studies*, vol. XLV (pgs. 271-288)

* Agbanu, H.L.K*. (2013).* A critical consideration of *Amememe* (‘cremation’) Rituals among the Mafi-Ewe of Ghana**.** *Oguaa Journal of Religion & Human Values,* vol. 2 (pgs.32-61)
* Nkansah-Amankra, S., Diedhiou, Agbanu, S. K., Agbanu,

H. L.K., Opoku-Adomako, N.S. & Twumasi-Ankrah, P. (2012).

A longitudinal Evaluation of Religiosity and Psychosocial

Determinants of Suicidal Behaviors among a Population-

Based Sample in the United States. *Journal of Affective*

*Disorders*, vol. 139 (1), (pgs. 40-51)

* Agbanu, H.L.K. (2012). The Death Penalty: An African Perspective.

*Ghana Bulletin of Theology*, New Series, vol. 4 (pgs. 120-144)

* Nkansah-Amankra, S., Diedhiou, A., Curtis, H., & Agbanu, H.L.K.(2011). Correlates of Sexual Risk Behaviors among High School Students in Colorado: Analysis and Implications of School-based HIV/AIDS Programs. *Maternal and Child Health Journal,* vol.15 (6), (pgs. 730-741)
* Nkansah-Amankra, S., Diedhiou, A.,& Agbanu, H.L.K., Toma-Drane, M., & Dhawan, A. (2011). Evaluating Correlates of Adolescent Physical Activity towards National Health Objectives: Analysis of Colorado Youth Risk Behavioral Survey, 2005. *Journal of Public Health,* vol.33 (2)*,* (Pgs. 246-255).
* Nkansah-Amankra, S., Diedhiou, A., Walker. A.D., Agbanu, H., & Clark, H. (2010). Adolescent Suicidal Behaviors, Self-rated Health and Multiple Health Risk Behaviors: Exploring New Perspectives in Suicide Prevention Research. *Journal of Public Health and Epidemiology,* vol.2 (8) (Pgs. 204-215)

1. **Documentary**:

* Commoditization of Religion: Religious Advertisements in the Ghanaian Public Space, Ghana Television (GTV), 2013.
* Religion and Environmental Conservation: The Case of the Paga Crocodile Pond.

**Other Academic/Research Related Activities Performed:**

* Dzorgbo, D-B.S., Twerefou, D.K., Agbanu, H.L.K. & Adoo-Adeku, C. (2008). Socio-Cultural factors driving the spread and prevention of HIV/AIDS in Ghana, A national survey on factors driving the spread of HIV/AIDS, Commissioned by Ghana AIDS Commission

**University Services**:

Member, Academic Board, University of Ghana (2016-Date)

 National President, University Teachers Association of Ghana (2015-Date)

 President, University Teachers Association of Ghana, University of Ghana

Branch (2015-Date)

 Member, University of Ghana Council (2015-2016)

Member, Procurement & Tender Committee, University of Ghana (2015-

Date)

 Member, Evaluation Panel for the Private Operation of the University

Bookshop (2015)

 Assistant Coordinator, M.A. (Sandwich) Religions Programme (2014-

Date)

* Vice- President, University Teachers’ Association of Ghana, Legon (2013-

2015)

* Member, National Executive Committee, UTAG (2013-Date)
* Member, University Basic Schools Management Board (2013-2015)
* Tutor, Legon Hall (2013-Date).
* Chairman, Legon Health Club (2013- Date)
* Chairman, M.A. (Sandwich) Religions Committee (2012-2014)
* Course Advisor, Level 200 (Religions) (2011-2014)
* Member, Homecoming Planning/Organizing Committee, Faculty of Arts

(2011)

* Member, Examinations Malpractices Committee (2006-2013)
* Coordinator, M. A. (Religions) Sandwich Program, Department for

the Study of Religions (2006-2009)

* Lecturer-in –Charge of Timetable (2003- 2009)
* Member, Admissions Board (2002- 2009)
* Member, Examinations Board (2002- 2009)
* Examinations Officer, Department for the Study of Religions (2002-2009)
* Member, Timetable Committee (2001- 2009)
* Member, Management Committee, Senior Common Room, Legon Hall

(2005- 2007)

* External Examiner, Catholic University College, Fiapere, 2004

**Services** **outside** **the** **University:**

* Chairman- Parent-Teacher Association (P.T.A), St. John’s

Grammar School, Achimota, Accra. (2012- 2016)

* Member, Board of Governors, St. John’s Grammar SHS (2012- 2016)
* Chairman, Council of Elders, Mafi Traditional Council. (2010-Date)
* Educational/Carrier Counseling (2009- Date)
* Facilitator- New York University, Ghana (2009-2011)
* Part-time Lecturer: Global Theological Seminary (2009-2011)
* Consultant – Ghana Education Service (Curricula Review

Committee) (2008-2010)

* Delegate: Synod of the Global Evangelical Church (2007- Date)
* Marriage Counselor, Global Evangelical Church (2007-Date)
* Secretary to Session: Global Evangelical Church, Adenta, Accra (2006-Date)
* Catechist, (Grace Family Chapel) Global Evangelical Church, Adenta (2006-Date)
* Item Writer, West African Examinations Council
* Item Moderator, West African Examinations Council
* Examiner- West African Examinations Council

.

**Professional** **Associations**

***Participation:***

* Member, Ecumenical Association of Third-World Theologians

(EATWOT), Ghana Chapter.

* Member, West African Association of Theological Institutions

(WAATI), Ghana Zone

* Member, African Association for the Study of Religions.
* Member, International Association for the History of Religions.
* Member, The International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture

**Conferences/seminars**:

 Sakai Retreat for the College of Humanities, Ghana Institute of

Public Administration (GIMPA), 28th -31st July 2015.



 “Projecting the Department (Study of Religions) in the Collegial

System: Challenges and Opportunities” 1st -3rd June 2015, Legon

 “The Humanities and A 21st Century Africa: Towards Alternative

Models of Human Development” 23rd -24th April 2015, Legon

 International Moderation Meeting, West African Examinations

Council, Lagos, Nigeria 16th-20th March 2015

* International Moderation Meeting, West African Examinations Council, Accra, Ghana, 28th Feb.-3rd March 2014.
* International Moderation Meeting, West African Examinations Council, Accra, Ghana, 24th -28th Feb. 2014.

 “Religion and Development” (Department for the Study of

Religions, University of Ghana Legon and Universität Basel,

Switzerland) 26th -30th January 2015 Legon

* + - * An International Interdisciplinary Conference on Politics, Poverty and Prayer: African Spiritualties, Economic and Socio-Political

Transformaton, University of Ghana, Legon, 22nd -23rd October,

2013.

* + - * Regional Workshop on Research Methods and Tools in ODL, Accra, Ghana, 23rd-25th April 2013.
      * Atelier regional de I’UNESCO sur I’enseignement de I’ethque de I’environnement, Lome-Togo 26th -28th March 2009
      * International Moderation Meeting, West African Examinations Council, Ibadan- Nigeria, 15th 19th Nov. 2008.
      * National Preliminary Co-ordination Meeting, West African Examinations Council, Accra, 23rd-28th July 2008.
      * International Moderation Conference, West African Examinations Council, Accra, 18th-22nd March 2007.
      * International Standard Fixing, West African Examinations Council, Lagos-Nigeria, 14th -18th August 2007.
      * International Moderation Conference, West African Examinations Council, Abiokuta- Nigeria, 20th -25th October 2007.
      * Sensitization and Mainstreaming HIV/AIDS Education into the Curriculum of the University Workshop, Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research, 15th February 2007.
      * Sensitization and Training Workshop on Peace and Conflict Studies, Chances Hotel, Ho, 28th to 31st August 2006.
      * Residential Writing Workshop for Distance Education Course Writers, Chances Hotel, Ho, 17th to 21st December 2006.
      * 4th Annual Colloquium, Faculty of Arts, University of Ghana Theme: “The Humanities and the Job Market.” Institute of African Study Legon, 27th – 28th April 2006
      * University of Ghana, Adult Education, Training Workshop for Distance Education Coordinators and Course Writers, Greenland Hotel, Agona-Swedru, 18th – 22nd October 2006.
      * World Association for Christian Communication (WACC) and the Trinity Theological Seminary Conference; Theme: “Religion, Media and Health in West Africa with focus on HIV& AIDS”, GIMPA, Legon, 13th – 15th December 2006.
      * Conference on Religion, Media and Health in West Africa, Greenhill, Accra, 13th to 15th December 2006
      * International Moderation Conference of West African Examination Council, Badagry, Nigeria, 2005.
      * Biennial Conference on Globalization, information technology and theological education in Africa, organized by West African Association Institutions, 31st July – 7th August 2004, Theological College of Nigerian, Bukuru, Jos, Nigeria (Served as Co -Editor of Proceedings)
      * African Association for the Study of Religions (AASR) 2nd Conference in Africa and International Association of History of Religions (IAHR) Regional Conference. 5-8 February 2004, University of Ghana, Legon.
      * Seminar on Contemporary Relevance of Tradition, Accra, 7th to 9th September 2004.
      * International Workshop on Religion and Human Rights. 4th to 8th November 2002. Marina Hotel, Dodowa, Ghana.
      * Seminar on Religion and Leadership 20th to 23rd January 2002 at the Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana.
      * Biennial Conference of the West African Association of Theological Institutions (WAATI). Valley View University, Oyibi, Accra, 4th to 9th August 2002. (Served as Rapporteur)
      * Symposium of the African Association of the Study of Religion (Ghana Chapter). Institute of African Studies, Legon. Theme: The Study of Religion in Ghana: Past, Present, and Future. August 10, 2002.
      * Seminar on Leadership and African Traditional Religion. October 2001. Institute of African Studies, Legon.

.

**Conference Papers:**

* ‘Amewuga’ (The Human Person Is of More Value than Wealth): The African concept of Humanity and its implications for Socio-

Economic development.” An International Interdisciplinary

Conference on Politics, Poverty and Prayer: Africa Spiritualties,

Economic and Socio-Political Transformation, University of

Ghana, Legon, 22-23 October 2013.

* “Traditional Beliefs and Practices and National Reconstruction.”

(Symposium of the African Association of the Study of Religion.

(Ghana Chapter) Institute of African Studies, Legon. Theme: The

Study of Religion in Ghana: Past, Present, and Future. August 10,

2002.)

**Research work (ongoing):**

* Traditional beliefs and practices and their effects on HIV/ AIDS prevention and spread.
* Religion and deviance among the adolescents.
* Religion and Sports
* Urban Religion and Indigenous Morality
* Indigenous cultures and Environmental conservation.

**Other interest**:

* The promotion of tolerance and respect among people of different religious traditions.
* Counseling couples and young people
* Promoting renewal in church-life
* Using indigenous knowledge systems to solve contemporary problems.

**Past time:**

* Walking
* Gardening
* Listening to Music
* Playing volley ball and table tennis

**Computer Skills:**

* MS Word, PowerPoint

**Languages:**

* English
* Ewe
* Akan (Twi)
* Ga

**Personal details**:

1. Date of birth: **July 13, 1960**
2. Nationality: Ghanaian

1. Family: Married with four children (two boys, and two girls)

**Religious denomination**:

Christian (Global Evangelical Church)

**Honors and Awards**:

**2009**

International Students’ Exchange Program, University of Northern

Colorado, USA.

**Referees:**

* Rev. Prof. Elom Dovlo

Department for the Study of Religions

University of Ghana

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Accra, Ghana

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* Dr. Rebecca Ganusah

Department for the Study of Religions

University of Ghana

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Accra, Ghana

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Cell: +233285011964

* Rev. Prof. J.N. Kudadjie

Methodist University College

Dansoman, Accra.

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Cell: +233270005160